

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agricultural Information Network

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Biofuels Overview 2014

Report Categories:

Biofuels

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Report Highlights:

Italy is Europe's fourth-biggest producer of biodiesel after Germany, France, and Spain, with a capacity of approximately 2.2 MMT per year.

Italy's Biofuels Overview 2014

Biodiesel

Italy is Europe's fourth-biggest producer of biodiesel after Germany, France, and Spain, with a capacity of approximately 2.2 MMT per year. Italian biodiesel operators include two categories: biodiesel producers and oilseed crushers. The latter produce pure vegetal oil for biofuels as well as the agro-food industry. Some of the oilseed crushers also engage in producing biodiesel. Biodiesel in Italy is produced mainly from imported rapeseed (40 percent), soybean (30 percent), and palm oil (25 percent). The remainder is made of recycled vegetable oils, sunflower oil, and animal fats. Rapeseed oil is mostly imported from EU countries (France, Germany, the Netherlands, and Belgium), while soybean oil is either imported from the EU or domestically produced from imported beans. Palm oil is chiefly imported by Indonesia and Malaysia. Biodiesel in Italy is exclusively used in blends with traditional diesel for transport or diesel for heating. During 2013, Italy imported 812,000 MT of biodiesel mainly from the Netherlands, Spain, Indonesia, and Germany.

Italy's biodiesel imports (000 MT)

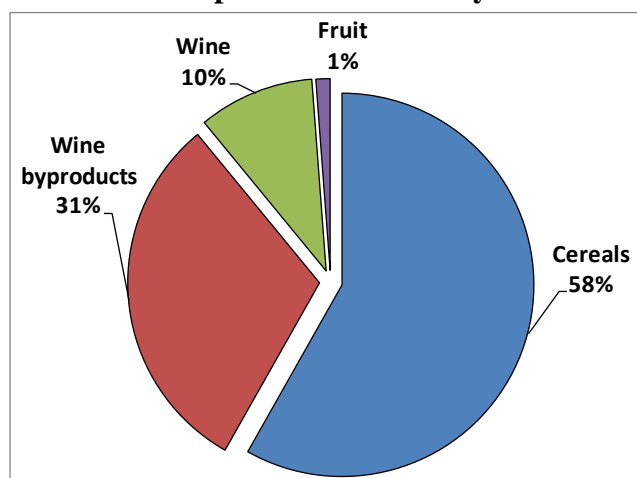
	2011	2012	2013
Spain	117	266	263
Netherlands	18	208	213
Indonesia	585	344	117
Germany	40	49	95
Belgium	34	60	56
Austria	1	13	31
France	1	12	16
Czech Republic	0	0	7
India	0	0	6
Latvia	0	0	6
World	1,195	1,180	812

Source: GTA - HS code 38260010

Bioethanol

Italy's bioethanol capacity is approximately 215,000 MT per year. Cereals (corn and wheat), wine, and wine byproducts (wine pomace and dregs) are responsible for the majority of the Italian ethanol production. However, only a limited portion of the total output is fuel ethanol, while the remainder is destined to industrial chemicals.

Italian ethanol production share by feedstock



Source: Italian Association of Distilling Companies (*Assodistil*)

Italy is a net importer of bioethanol, with approximately 270,000 MT imported in 2013.

Italy's bioethanol imports (000 MT)

	2011	2012	2013
France	72	102	88
Spain	112	114	61
Egypt	33	40	30
Romania	10	22	19
Bolivia	1	0	14
Pakistan	3	2	11
Belgium	22	13	9
United Kingdom	0	2	7
Slovakia	0	0	5
Netherlands	28	3	4
World	362	349	270

Source: *GTA*

Associations

Assocostieri (Italian association of biodiesel producers)

Address: Via di Vigna Murata, 40 - 00143 Rome

Phone: +39 06 5004658

Website: <http://www.assocostieri.it/>

Assodistil (Italian Association of Distilling Companies)

Address: Via Torino, 146 - 00184 Rome

Phone: +39 06 95214501

Website: <http://www.assodistil.it/>

Abbreviations and definitions used in this report

Biodiesel: Fatty acid methyl ester produced from agricultural feedstock (vegetable oils, animal fat, recycled cooking oils) used as transport fuel to substitute for petroleum diesel.

Bioethanol: Ethanol produced from agricultural feedstock used as transport fuel

HS: Harmonized System of tariff codes

MMT: Million Metric Tons

MT: Metric ton (1,000 kg)

1 MT Biodiesel 1,136 liters

1 MT Ethanol 1,267 liters